IN MEMORIAM OF DANIEL DENNETT: THE DIGIDAN INSTALLATION
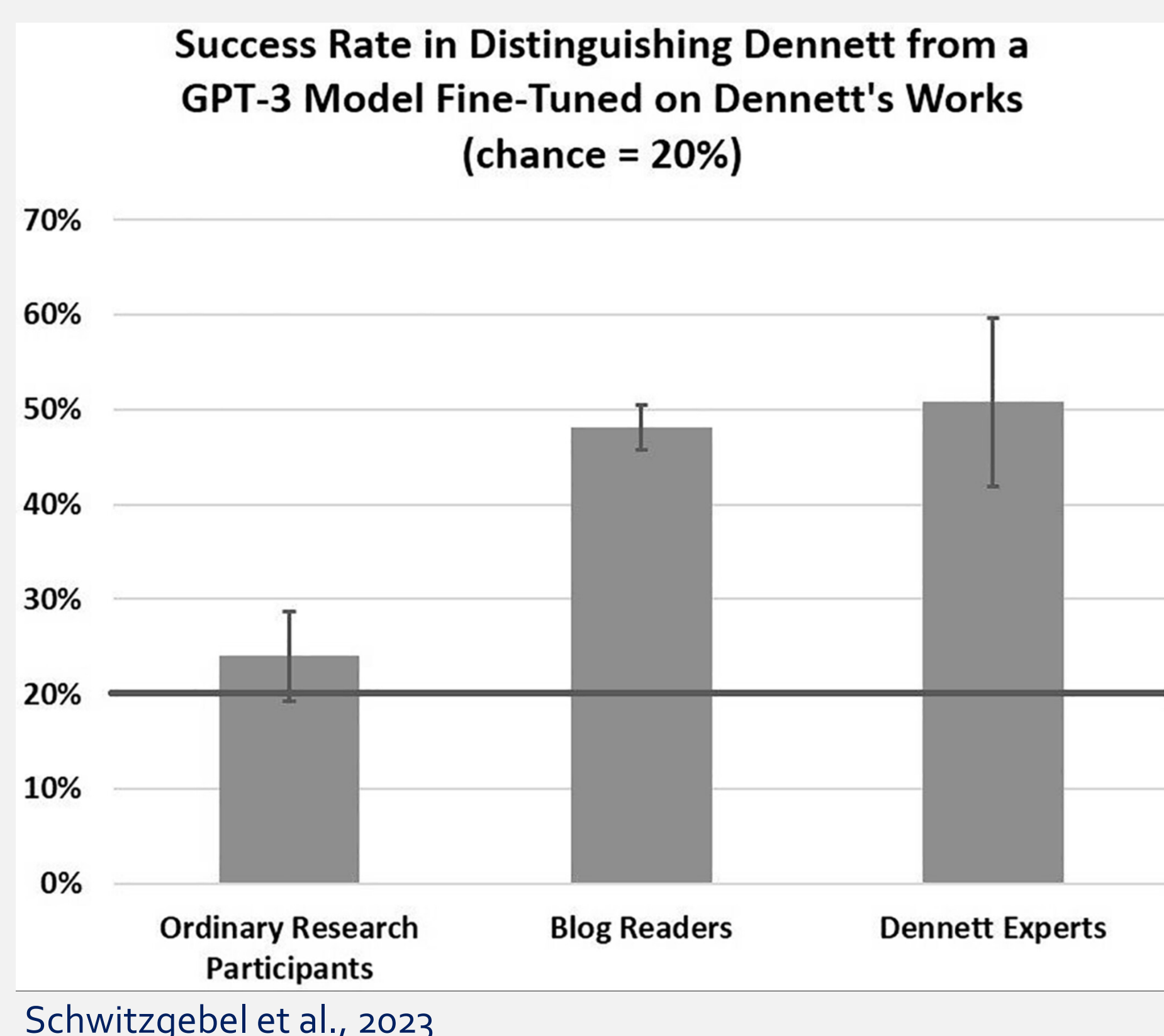

DANIEL DENNETT PASSED AWAY ON APRIL 19, 2024
LEAVING BEHIND A HUGE GAP – HE IS SORELY MISSED BY MANY

With the DigiDan installation, I would like to pay tribute to Daniel Dennett

With Daniel Dennett's permission, Eric Schwitzgebel, Matthew Crosby, and I fine-tuned a Large Language Model with his published works.

(Strasser et al., 2023).

➢ We aimed to see how far we could get in creating a digital replica of a philosopher, and investigated the extent to which our model, which we called "DigiDan," could answer philosophical questions in a similar way to Dennett himself.

Success Rate in Distinguishing Dennett from a GPT-3 Model Fine-Tuned on Dennett's Works (chance = 20%)

Schwitzgebel et al., 2023

Dennett's take on DigiDan

"Most of the machine answers were pretty good, but a few were nonsense or obvious failures to get anything about my views and arguments correct. A few of the best machine answers say something I would sign on to without further ado."

(Love, 2022).

THE DIGIDAN INSTALLATION – A RECORDED ZOOM CALL WITH DANIEL DENNETT, DIGIDAN, AND ME –
INVITES THE AUDIENCE TO EXPERIENCE
HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN HUMAN-CREATED AND MACHINE-GENERATED TEXT

HOW TO EXPERIENCE THE DIGIDAN INSTALLATION

1. **Watch the video**
   - Follow this link:
     https://youtu.be/rNEHzQ15tJQ?si=UnAniEi9rP1R8dOR

2. **Guess who was the real human philosopher**
   - Pause after the Q&A and vote at
     https://app.sli.do/event/jpQ8fe1ejM57u9e9HDqErP
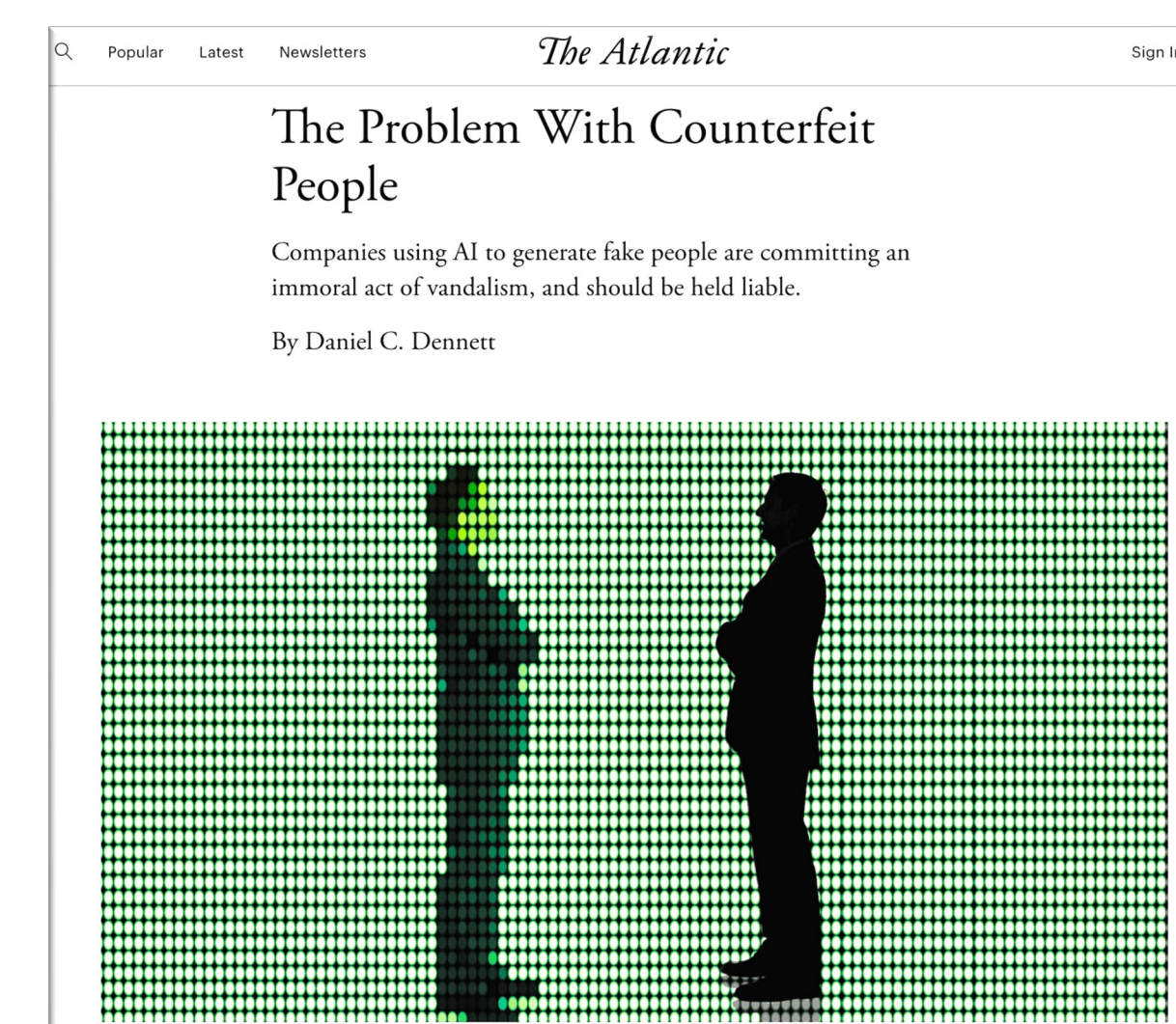
3. **Enjoy the interview with Daniel Dennett**

4. **Read Dennett's essay "The Problem With Counterfeit People"**
   - Learn about his concern about the dangerous impact digital replicas could have on our society

References:
- Dennett, D. (2023). The problem with counterfeit people. *The Atlantic*. https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2023/05/problem-counterfeit-people/674075
- Love, S. (2022). In Experiment, AI Successfully Impersonates Famous Philosopher. *Vice*. https://www.vice.com/en/article/epzx3m/in-experiment-ai-successfully-impersonates-famous-philosopher
- Schwitzgebel, E., Schwitzgebel, D., & Strasser, A. (2023). Creating a large language model of a philosopher. *Mind & Language*, 1–23. https://doi.org/10.1111/mila.12466
- Strasser, A., Crosby, M., & Schwitzgebel, E. (2023). How Far Can We Get in Creating a Digital Replica of a Philosopher? In R. Hakli, P. Mäkelä, & J. Seibt (Eds.), *Social Robots in Social Institutions* (pp. 371–380). IOS Press. https://doi.org/10.3233/FAIA220637